

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 2-6, 9-13, and 17-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dedrick ("Dedrick") (US Patent No. 5,710,884).

In response thereto, claims 3, 9 and 17 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 2-6, 9-13, and 17-57 are now pending. Following is a discussion of the patentability of each of the pending claims.

Independent Claims 3, 9, and 17

Claims 3, 9, and 17 describe a system or method in which a target computer receives a content and a content provider is coupled to the target computer via a network to transmit the content. The first agent has a triggering program to filter information and to determine whether the information is significant. The content provider has a user rule page containing information obtained from the target computer by a first agent. A rule book provides a rule based on the user rule page, and the rule controls the content to be transmitted from a database to the target computer. The rule is stored in the form of a condition-action pair. The condition in the condition-action pair is a hardware characteristic of the target computer.

The Dedrick reference does not disclose or suggest a first agent having a triggering program to filter information and to determine whether the information is significant. In the Dedrick reference, it appears that the triggering program is run in the content provider.

Dependent Claims

Claims 2, 4-6, 24-26, 28, 29, 41, 43, and 48 depend from claim 3, claims 10-13, 30, 31, and 33-35 depend from claim 9, and claims 18-20, 22, 23, 27, 32, 36, 40, 42, 45, and 54-57 depend from claim 17. As such, these claims are similarly patentable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are in condition for allowance.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1 3. (Six Times Amended) A system comprising:
2 a target computer to receive a content; and
3 a content provider coupled to the target computer via a network to transmit the
4 content, the content provider comprising:
5 a user rule page containing information obtained from the target computer by
6 a first agent, the first agent having a triggering program to filter information and to
7 determine whether the information is significant; and
8 a rulebook to provide a rule based on the user rule page, the rule controlling
9 the content to be transmitted from a database to the target computer, the rule stored in
10 form of a condition-action pair, a condition in the condition-action pair being a
11 hardware characteristic of the target computer.

1 9. (Five Times Amended) A method comprising:
2 obtaining information from a target computer by a first agent, the information being
3 stored in a user rule page, the first agent having a triggering program to filter information and
4 to determine whether the information is significant;
5 providing a rule based on the rule page by a rule book, the rule controlling a content
6 from a database;
7 transmitting through a network the content from the database to the target computer;
8 and
9 storing the rule in form of a condition-action pair, a condition in the condition-action
10 pair[s] being a hardware characteristic of the target computer.

1 17. (Four Times Amended) A system comprising:
2 a content provider transmitting a content via a network to a target computer, the
3 content provider comprising:
4 a user rule page containing information being obtained from the target
5 computer by a first agent, the first agent having a triggering program to filter
6 information and to determine whether the information is significant; and

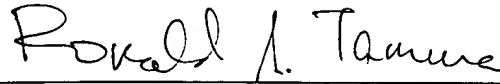
7 a rulebook to provide a rule based on the user rule page, the rule controlling a
8 content transmitted from a database to the target computer, the rule being stored in
9 form of a condition-action pair, a condition in the condition-action pair being a
10 hardware characteristic of the target computer.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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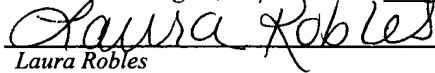
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: August 6, 2002.


Laura Robles

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Date